

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE FOR THE SSC

REF: SECDEF 060056Z JAN 78

JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE RE US-JAPAN SECURITY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING (FORMAL TITLE - SUBCOMMITTEE OF SECURITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE) SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 16-17 IN HONOLULU.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY THE FOLLOWING RESPONSES MAY BE USED:

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Q. WHO WILL HEAD THE U.S. DELEGATION?
A. THE HONORABLE DAVID E. MCGIFFERT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS.

Q. WHO ELSE WILL ATTEND FROM THE U.S. SIDE?
A. LIST OF U.S. DELEGATES IN PARA 1 OF REF MAY BE USED.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING?

A. THE SSC IS PART OF THE CONTINUING SERIES OF CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JAPAN ON DEFENSE ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

Q. IS THERE ANY PARTICULAR REASON FOR CALLING THIS MEETING NOW?

A. NO. THIS IS THE 10TH IN A SERIES OF SUCH MEETINGS WHICH WILL EMPHASIZE A FREE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. WE BEGAN DISCUSSING THIS MEETING OVER THREE AND ONE-HALF MONTHS AGO.

Q. WHAT WILL BE DISCUSSED?

A. AGREED AGENDA TOPICS INCLUDE EXCHANGES ON THE ASIAN SITUATION, U.S. DEFENSE POLICY, JAPAN DEFENSE POLICY AND JAPAN-US DEFENSE COOPERATION.

Q. IS THERE ANY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CURRENT TRADE TALKS AND THIS MEETING?

A. NO, THERE IS NONE.

Q. IS THE U.S. GOING TO ASK JAPAN TO DO MORE TO BUILD UP ITS DEFENSE CAPABILITIES?

A. WE AGREE WITH THE JAPANESE VIEW THAT QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS RATHER THAN EXPANSION OF JAPAN'S DEFENSE CAPABILITY IS APPROPRIATE.
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Q. WILL GREATER DEFENSE COST-SHARING BE DISCUSSED?

A. WITHIN THE BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED, VIEWS MAY BE EXCHANGED ON METHODS TO RELIEVE SOME OF THE INCREASING COST OF MAINTAINING U.S. FORCES IN JAPAN. CHRISTOPHER

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